Mountain Weather Forecast

Snowdonia National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Sunday 18 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Monday 19 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Sunday 18 Dec 2022 at 00:27

Confidence: High confidence for a windy and wet day on Sunday with a rapid change to milder conditions during the day. Possibility of a period of freezing rain during the morning as precipitation changes from snow to rain. Mild and windy for much of Monday but turning colder again on the summits by Tuesday. Lower confidence on timings of rainfall and cloud levels.

Headline for Sunday 18 Dec 2022: Dry at first. Rain, sleet and snow moving east, severe gales expected, hazardous conditions later.

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 18 Dec 2022

Blizzards Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy Rain	Light rain	Light rain
Precipitation probability					
20%	40%	70%	70%	70%	40%

Forecast for Sunday 18 Dec 2022

Weather: Cloud thickening towards dawn and gales developing with a band of sleet or snow, soon turning to rain, spreading east causing an ice hazard underfoot and the risk of freezing rain. Blizzards are possible as the band moves across Snowdonia on the higher mountains. Sleet and rain will turn heavy at times during the afternoon and winds strengthening to severe gales for a time will make for hazardous conditions on the mountains with poor visibility likely too. Drier later but drizzle and fog likely to linger and snowmelt likely to occur during the evening will turn the ground very boggy.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80% falling to 40% later, low cloud forming in association with frontal rain spreading east.

Low Cloud and visibility: Initially good visibility and very little cloud below the summits but by mid-morning layers of cloud will start forming above 500m, becoming broken or extensive in the northwest, possibly more scattered around southern areas towards Bala. Visibility will turn poor or even very poor in fog patches and heavy sleet and rain. Near zero visibility is likely in any blizzards during the morning.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Sunday 18 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	45/53 SE	41/51 SE	43/54 SE	41/52 SE	39/49 S	38/48 S	39/52 S
600	34/43 SE	31/41 SE	32/43 SE	29/40 SE	25/35 S	25/36 S	26/38 S
300	25/43 SE	22/39 SE	23/41 SE	22/39 SE	17/32 SE	17/33 S	17/33 S
Valley	25/44 SE	23/41 SE	24/43 SE	23/42 SE	18/35 S	18/35 S	17/33 S

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-2/-11	-3/-13	-1/-10	1/-7	5/-2	6/0	8/2
600	1/-7	-0/-8	1/-6	3/-3	6/1	8/4	9/5
300	2/-4	1/-6	3/-3	5/-0	8/4	10/6	11/8
Valley	3/-3	2/-4	4/-2	6/1	8/5	11/7	12/9
Freezing Level*	200m	300m	1700m	2300m	2000m	2400m	2500m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

A severe wind chill early in the day in strong winds but note how rapidly freezing level rises during the afternoon. Gales or severe gales will cause severe buffeting and driving sleet and then rain, with the risk of freezing rain turning things very icy. A rapid thaw is likely to begin during the afternoon as temperatures rise with watercourses filling and very wet ground.

Forecast for Monday 19 Dec 2022

Weather: Feeling milder than recent weeks and a wet and windy day with severe gales expected. Outbreaks of rain throughout the day and falling as rain at all levels, a rapid thaw is likely with conditions underfoot becoming very wet and water courses becoming full. Perhaps dry for a time in the afternoon and later in the evening but remaining cloudy.

Maximum wind: Southerly 40-45mph gusts 55-60mph, storm force gusts 70mph are likely on higher summits.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 20% rising to 50% later, more chance as rain becomes lighter later.

Low Cloud and visibility: Broken or extensive low cloud layers above 3-400m in the morning, perhaps more scattered further south and east in Snowdonia. Visibility will be poor in outbreaks of rain but becoming moderate later as rain becomes lighter. Cloud will thin and lift a little towards 5-600m in the afternoon with some gaps at times.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 7 rising to 13 Celsius.
At 800m: Plus 7 Celsius
Freezing level: Above all summits

Tuesday	Sunshine and showers driven on strong southwesterly winds, summit gales likely, freezing level falling to 800m later so some showers falling as sleet or snow in the afternoon.
Wednesday	Further blustery wintery showers with summit gales and freezing level around 800m rising above summits later.
Thursday	Freezing level rising above summits and strong winds continuing with outbreaks of rain likely.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement
Please see - https://snowdonia.gov.wales/visit/snowdon/yr-wyddfa-ground-conditions-reports/
Issued at: 00:27 on Sun 18 Dec 2022

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